New drugs in traditional medicines

1386. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China are contemplating joint efforts to develop new drugs in traditional medicines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard between the two countries; and

(d) by when the work in this regard is likely to be started and which diseases are targeted initially?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Under the aegis of International Clinical Epidemiology Network India and China are contemplating joint efforts to develop new durgs in the area of traditional medicine. As agreement has been signed by India Clinical Epidemiology Network and China Clinical Epidemiology Network for joint efforts in the area of Hepatitis and Diabetes.

Smoke free zones

1387. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Medical Association has declared all its centres across the country as 'Smoke-free-zones' with effect from June, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the effect thereof;

(c) whether it has also appealed to all the doctors to give up smoking, at least publicly; and

(d) whether Government propose to ban smoking in hospitals and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Indian Medical Association has declared all its centers across the country as Smoke Free Zone with effect from June 2005 and has appealed all the doctors to give up smoking.

(d) The Government vide notification dated 25.02.2004 has banned smoking in public places, including hospitals, with effect from 1st May 2004.

Opening more hospitals

†1388. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have set any target for opening more hospitals during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) by when the work of opening these new hospitals would be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Health being a State subject under the Constitution of India, it is for the State Governments to open new hospitals in the States keeping in view their priorities and availability of resources.

However, as per available statistics, as on 1.1.2004, there are 5479 Allopathic Hospitals (including Community Health Centres) with total number of bed capacity of 3,80,993. Besides, there are allopathic hospitals in the private sector and large number of hospitals belonging to alternative system of medicines funtioning in the country.

Further, under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) launched in 2003, it is proposed to set up one AIIMS like institution each in the States of Bihar (Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur),

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.